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IDENTIFIERS	Arrests; Child Mortality; *Indicators; *Maine; School Lunch Program

ABSTRACT

This KIDS COUNT data book details statewide trends in the well-being of Maine's children. Following a brief overview of the data book and a summary of indicators, state trend data are presented in the areas of: (1) poverty; (2) child and adolescent suicide; (3) public high school dropouts; (4) teen pregnancy; (5) public high school graduates planning to attend post-secondary education; (6) individuals aged 3-21 with disabilities; (7) infant mortality; (8) domestic assault reports; and (9) arrests of children aged 10-17. County trend data are reported for the areas of children in poverty, 1998; school children receiving subsidized school lunch, 2000-2001; and unemployment, 2000. The bulk of the report presents Maine state and county profiles based on a variety of indicators in the areas of: (1) physical and mental health; (2) social and economic opportunity; and (3) education and learning. Measures showing definite improvement include infant mortality rate, low birth weight rate, child and teen deaths, teen violent deaths, number of uninsured children, arrests of children 10-17, and the teen pregnancy rate. Measures found to need immediate attention include number of child residents of homeless and emergency shelters, child abuse and neglect, child and teen suicide rate, and number of children with disabilities. The report concludes with definitions and sources of data. (SD)

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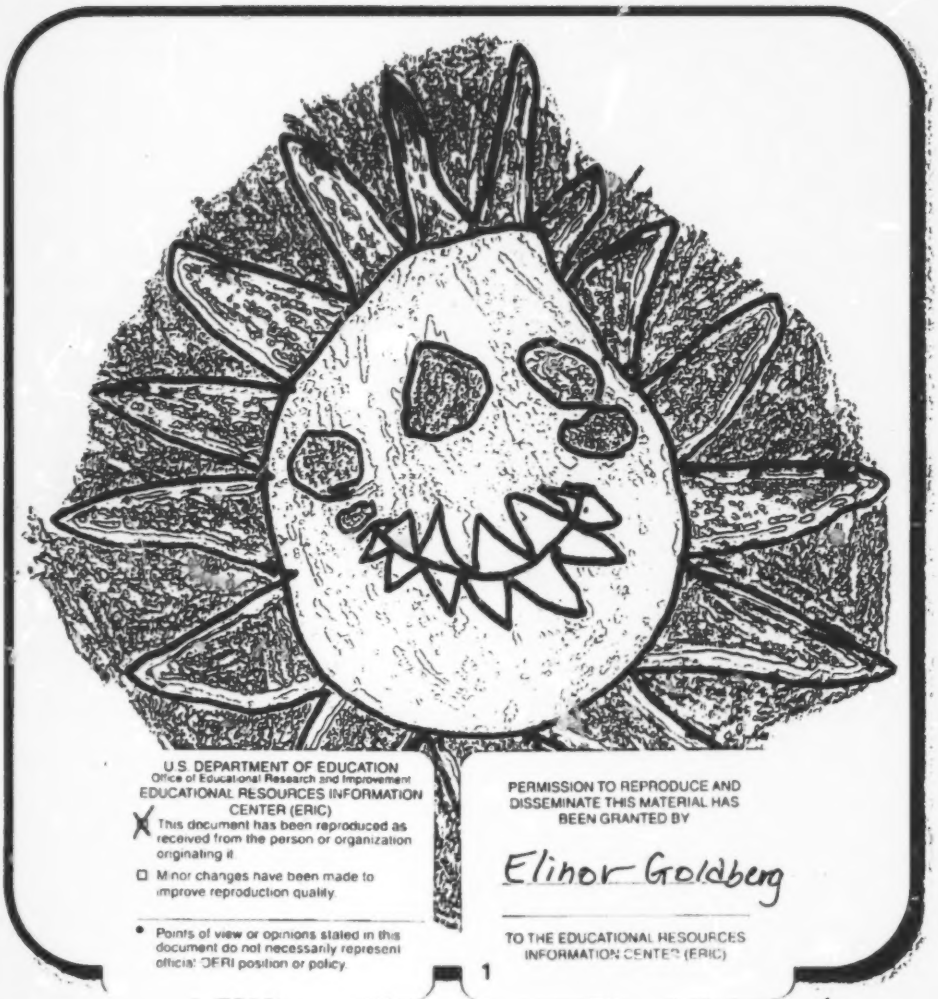
ED 463 842

Maine Kids Count

2002 Data Book



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"SUN FACE"
by Ann Franklin, Age 5
Fruit Street School, Bangor

PS 030252

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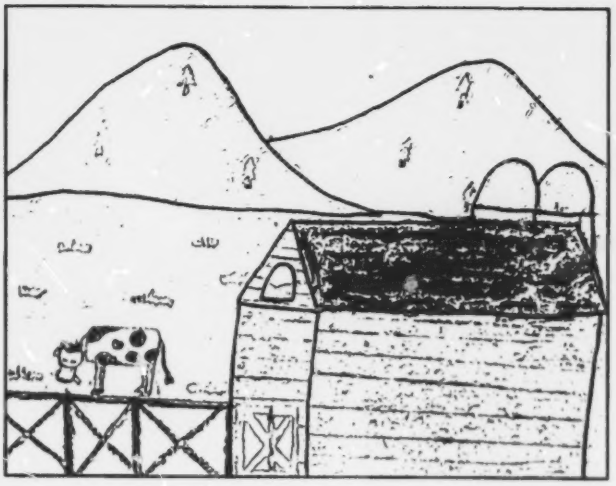
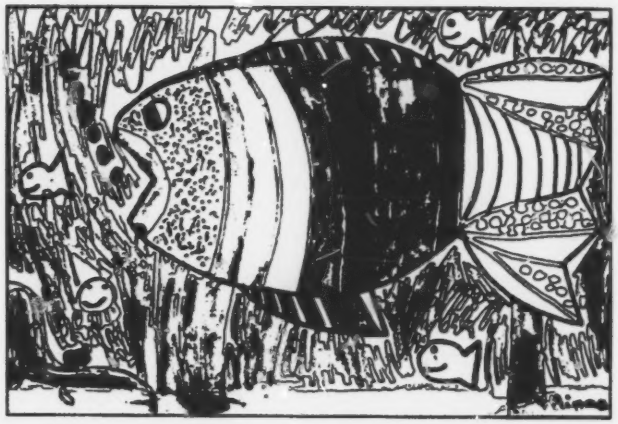




THE ARTISTS:

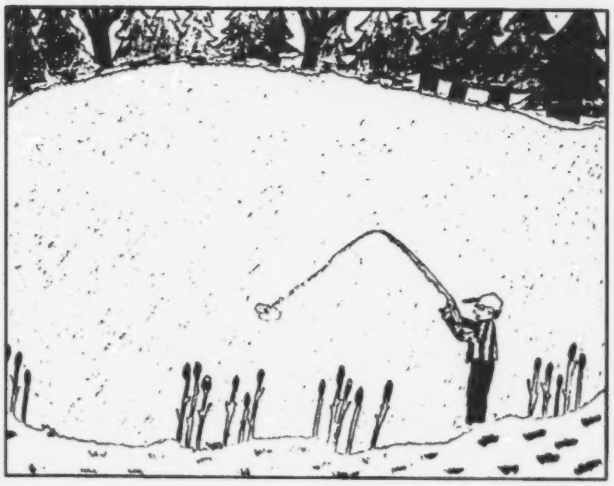
TOP LEFT: Nicole Ritchey, Age 17, Livermore Falls High School, Livermore Falls

TOP RIGHT: Danielle Cropley, Age 9, Fort Street School, Mars Hill

LEFT: Aimee Dubois, Age 7, Fruit Street School, Bangor

BOTTOM LEFT: Cameron York, Age 11, Fort Street School, Mars Hill

BOTTOM RIGHT: Kendra Keefe, Age 13, Brewer Middle School, Brewer



Book design by Bluecat Media, Portland Maine ~ www.bluecatmedia.com ~ sharon@bluecatmedia.com

Introduction

The Maine KIDS COUNT Data Book, now in its eighth edition, has tracked the well being of Maine children since 1994. If one conclusion is to be drawn from these nine years of data, it is this: investing in children works, in good times and in bad. In the past several years, Maine policymakers have expanded state health insurance coverage for children, improved early care and education resources for families, and targeted resources to improve child and adolescent health outcomes. The data speak to the success of these programs: a steady decline in the numbers of uninsured children, healthier moms and babies, and significant reductions in teen smoking and other health risk behaviors. Over the past decade, Mainers have worked hard to create and sustain these and other public programs that assist those in need, and it is clear that doing so has improved the quality of life for thousands of children and their families.

COURTESY OF SHARON WEEMAN

Today, as we find ourselves in the throes of a national recession, we must protect the progress we have made toward ensuring that every Maine child has an equal opportunity to succeed. One step we can take is to reinforce the strength of our safety nets, which are designed to support families through difficult times. As noted in the Maine Center for Economic Policy's State of Working Maine, 2000, 'while it is true that state government cannot protect all its citizens from every market trend or fluctuation, government can and does intervene in its citizens' economic lives.' We must take care to intervene in ways that help vulnerable families cushion the blow of this recession.

History has shown us that economic downturns do the most damage to those who can least afford the injury: low-income working families. Though full-time employment is the norm for these families, they tend to be employed in jobs that have seen little wage growth in the last decade, and which provide few, if any, benefits such as health care, paid sick leave, or parental leave. These families simply have fewer means of alleviating the financial and social pressures caused by economic decline. Even during the healthy economy of the late 1990s, over 90,000 Maine children lived in working families who struggled to provide for their children's basic needs. Today, at the onset of this recession, 33% of all Maine jobs fail to pay a livable wage, and 31% of all Maine children receive free or reduced price school lunch. We are living in a time that demands that all adults in a household work; a time when even financially secure families experience significant stress in balancing the needs of work and family.

Mainers are fortunate to live in communities whose values of family and work are self-evident, and are fortunate to have access to programs that support them in times of need. When families have access to safety nets that prevent hunger or homelessness, that provide health insurance or child care, it makes a significant difference in the healthy development of their children. The data in this year's book point to many of these successes. If it is true that the best predictor of future success is past experience, then we should look to our past and be grateful that we know what to do: to ensure that Maine has a healthy future, we must continue to invest in Maine's children today. The rewards for all of us are immeasurable.

Lynn Davey

Lynn Davey, Ph.D
Director, Maine KIDS COUNT

PHOTO COURTESY OF PAM WOODHEAD

What is Maine Kids Count?

Maine KIDS COUNT, a project of the Maine Children's Alliance, is part of the national KIDS COUNT network, a state-by-state effort funded by the Annie E. Casey Foundation to track the status of children across the United States. The principal activity of KIDS COUNT is the publication of the Data Book, which provides the most up-to-date data on the social, economic, physical, and educational well-being of children in Maine. Through the publication of the annual data book, we seek to 1) increase public awareness of the status of children across the state, and 2) enrich discussions concerning ways to secure better futures for all of Maine's children.

The indicators reported in the Data Book have all met the following criteria for inclusion:

- the indicator must be from a reliable source
- the indicator must be available and consistent over time
- the indicator must be easily understandable to the public
- the indicator must reflect an important outcome or measure of children's well-being
- the indicators, as a group, should represent children of all ages

How to Use This Book

In order to both assess our present standing and evaluate our progress over time, it is essential to understand what is being measured and how. The DEFINITIONS AND SOURCES section, in the back of the book, provides a comprehensive definition of each indicator, an explanation of how and by whom it is collected and measured, as well as web addresses with direct links to data and data sources.

For every indicator in the book, we report a number, and a percentage or rate. We certainly like to know the number of children represented by any indicator. It is essential to present the indicators as percent or rates in order to enable comparison between groups of different population size (i.e. different counties).

PHOTO COURTESY OF MELISSA ABBOTT

CALCULATING RATES

Percentages and rates are measures of the probability of an event. They both take into account the total population of children who could experience that event. Rates that include a "%" sign are percents, or rates per 100 events. Other rates are expressed per 1,000, 10,000, or 100,000 events. The generic formula for calculating rates or percents is:

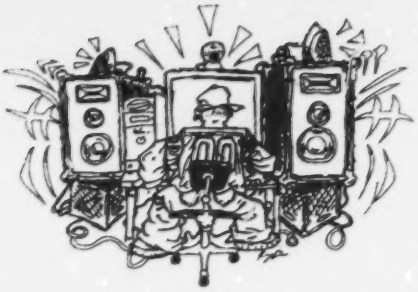
$$\frac{(\text{number of occurrences}) \times (\text{base rate})}{\text{population}}$$

There are 35,633 students in Maine with disabilities; that translates to a rate of 158 students with disabilities per 1 000. That rate was calculated as follows:

$$\frac{(35{,}633 \text{ students with disabilities}) \times (1000)}{224{,}567 \text{ students in Maine schools}} = 158$$

We could also report that as 15.8% of all Maine students (the rate per 100 students).

Indicators at a Glance



"THE FUTURE" by Kenny Dao, age 13, Saco Middle School

MEASURES SHOWING DEFINITE IMPROVEMENT:

- A number of indicators of children's physical health continue to improve: **infant mortality** has been one of the lowest in the nation for several years, and continues to decline. Latest data indicate an average of 5.3 deaths per 1,000 live births (1995-99). In addition, the rate of **low birthweight** births, and the rates of **child and teen deaths** and **teen violent deaths** have all declined over the past several years and are below the national average.
- The number of **uninsured children** continues to decline: the most recent data indicate that, on average, **9% of Maine children were uninsured** during the years 1998-2000.
- Certain aspects of adolescent risk behavior have declined as well. **Arrests of children** 10-17 have decreased from 90.2 arrests per 1,000 children 10-17 in 1996 to 68.3 in 2000. The **teen pregnancy rate** has declined to a low of 8.7 in 2000; the rate was 14.6 in 1990 (per 1,000 young women aged 10-17).

MEASURES SHOWING MIXED PROGRESS:

- The economic picture in Maine continues to be a concern. While the statewide **unemployment rate declined** in 2000 (to 3.5%), the rate was **on the rise in the last quarter of 2001,** and there is wide variation in unemployment by county and by season. In addition, **33% of all jobs in Maine pay fail to pay a livable wage.**[1]
- The **child poverty rate declined to 14.2%,** but it is **higher than the national average (12.7%).** Further, there are **12,000 children under aged 5 living in poverty** (18% of all children under 5 in Maine). And, although child poverty has declined, over 90,000 of our children are living in families that struggle to meet basic needs: **32% of all Maine children live in low-income families.**[2] This statistic is consistent with the National School Lunch Program data which reveals that **31% of all Maine children receive free or reduced-price school lunch.**
- The **median household income has continued to rise** ($35,560 in 1998), but remains **below the national average** ($38,885), and is the **lowest of all New England states.** And, again, income varies widely by county – a low of $25,997 in Washington county; a high of $42,514 in Cumberland county.

MEASURES NEEDING IMMEDIATE ATTENTION:

- There are disturbing statistics regarding the physical and mental health and security of many Maine children and youth:
  - The numbers of **children staying in homeless or emergency shelters has almost doubled** in the last five years. In July of 2001, 425 Maine children under 18 stayed in a homeless or emergency shelter, up from 233 in July of 1996.
  - In 2000, **4,162 Maine children** were substantiated by the Department of Human Services as **victims of child abuse and neglect** (13.8 per 1,000 children). In addition, an increasing number of reports received by the Department were deemed to warrant Child Protective Services.
  - The **child and teen suicide rate has remained steady** for the past four years (6.1 per 100,000 children 10-19). However, it is higher than the national average (5.3 per 100,000), and is **a particular problem in Penobscot and Cumberland counties,** which account for over 40% of all teen suicides in the state.
- The numbers of **children with disabilities** has increased 28% in the last 10 years, from 124.4 per 1,000 students in 1991-92 to 158.7 in 2000-2001. In other words, nearly 16% of all students in Maine have been identified as requiring the provision of special education services.

[1] A livable wage is the percentage of all jobs in Maine that paid what the Maine Economic Growth Council considers an annual livable wage. This measure considers a livable wage to be 185% of the federal poverty threshold for a family of two (assuming a single wage-earner). The 2000 poverty threshold for a family of two was $11,239. Therefore, a livable wage is an annual salary of (1.85 x $11,239) $20,792. 67% of all jobs paid a salary of at least $20,792.

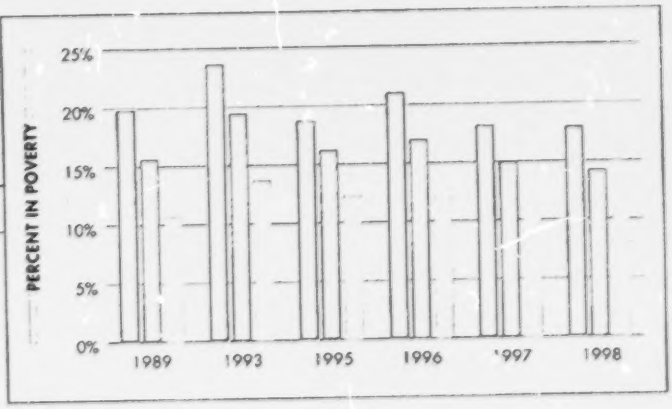
[2] KIDS COUNT defines "low-income" as twice the poverty threshold or below (< 200% of poverty). In 2000, the poverty threshold for a family of four was $17,603. Thus, "low-income" represents income of less than $35,206 per year for a family of four.

PHOTO COURTESY OF STEPHEN BOODY

STATE Trend Data

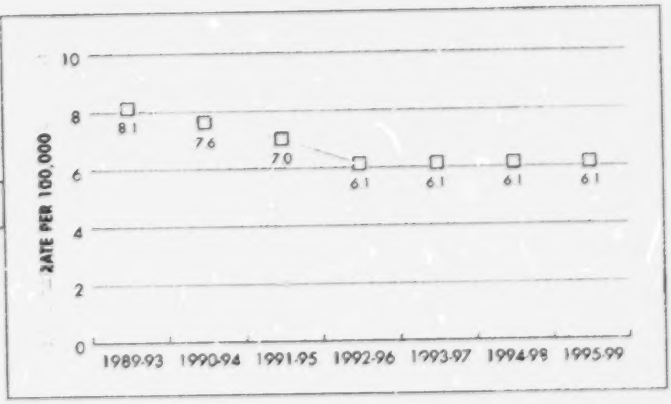
POVERTY

SOURCE: The Census Bureau's Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE)



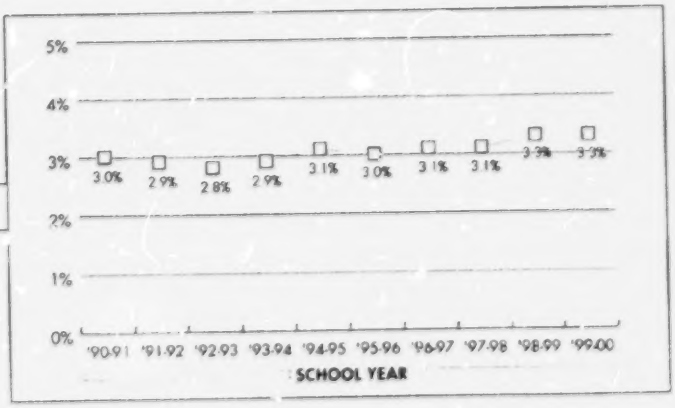
CHILD AND ADOLESCENT SUICIDE

SOURCE: Maine Department of Human Services, Office of Data, Research, and Vital Statistics



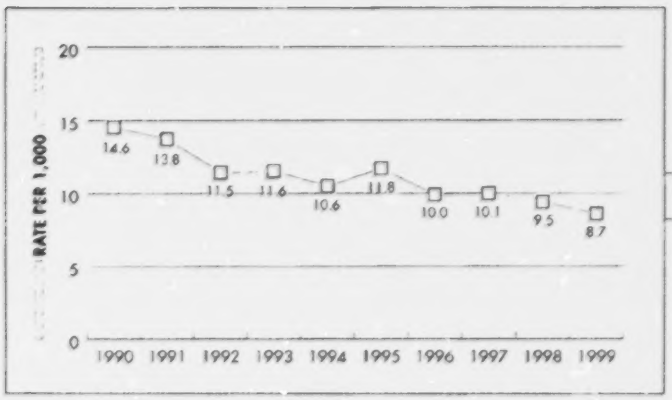
PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL DROPOUTS

SOURCE: Department of Education, Division of Information Management



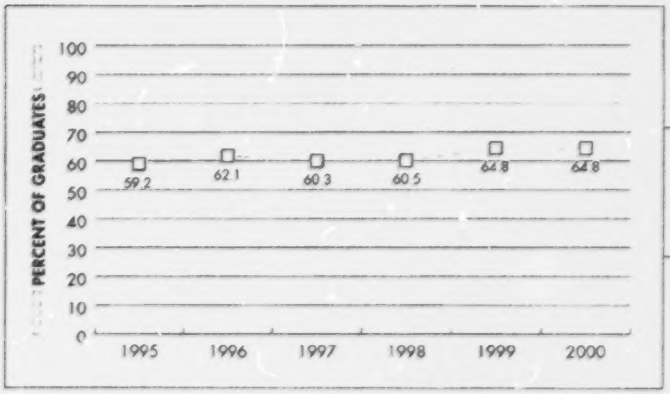
STATE Trend Data

PHOTO COURTESY OF NANCY SCOTT



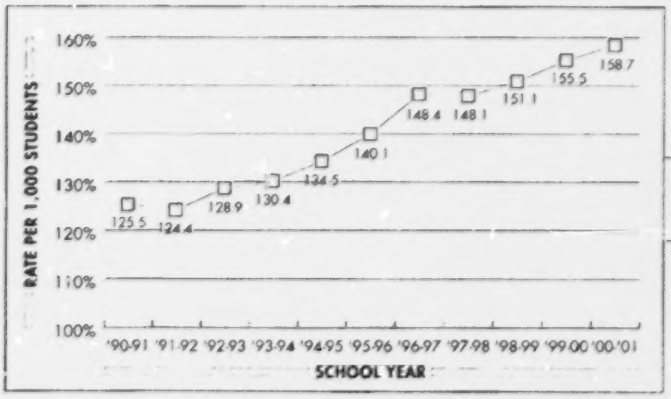
TEEN PREGNANCY (AGES 10-17)

SOURCE: Maine Department of Human Services, Office of Data, Research, and Vital Statistics



PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES PLANNING TO ATTEND POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

SOURCE: Maine Department of Education, Division of Management Information



INDIVIDUALS AGED 3-21 WITH DISABILITIES

SOURCE: Maine Department of Education, Division of Special Services

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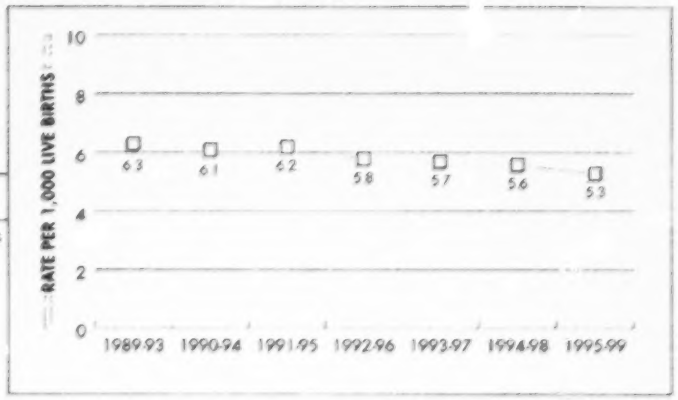
STATE Trend Data

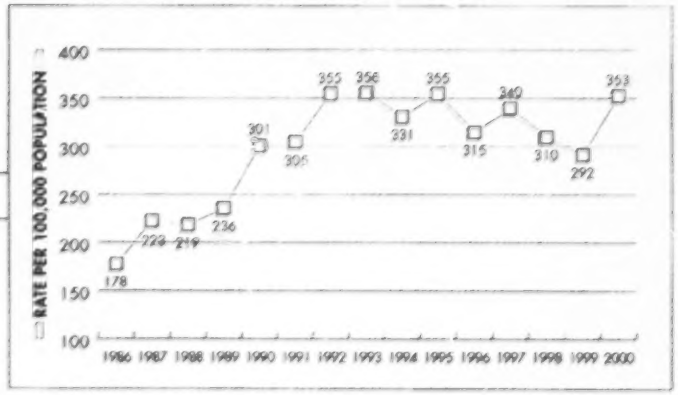
INFANT MORTALITY

SOURCE: Maine Department of Human Services, Office of Data, Research, and Vital Statistics



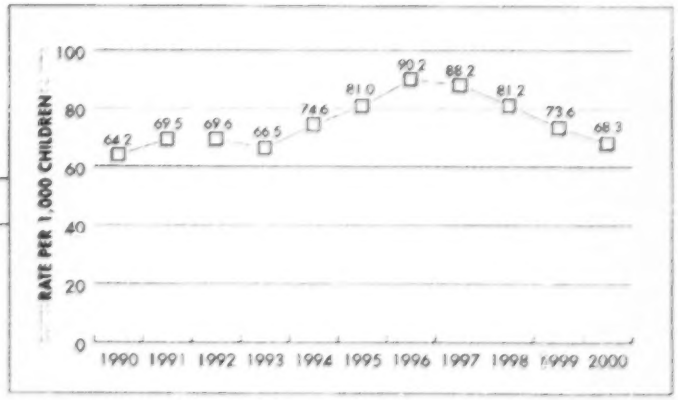
REPORTED DOMESTIC ASSAULTS

SOURCE: The Uniform Crime Report, Maine Department of Public Safety



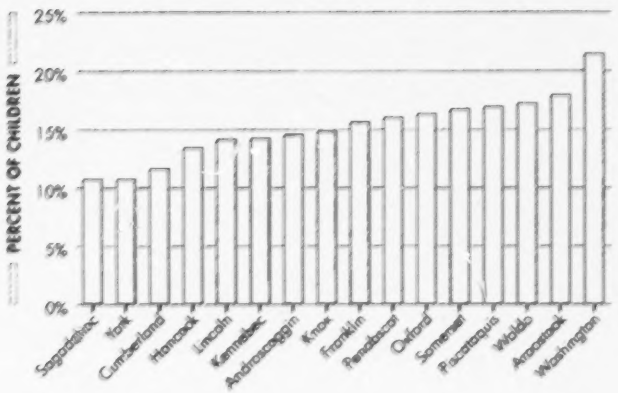
ARRESTS OF CHILDREN AGED 10-17

SOURCE: Maine Department of Public Safety, Uniform Crime Reporting Division



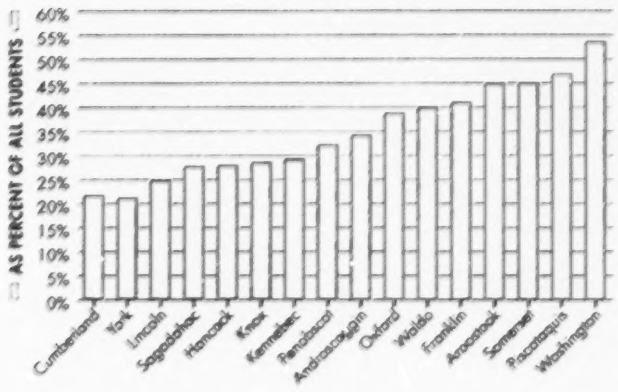
COUNTY Trend Data

PHOTO COURTESY OF MELISSA STUFFLEBEAM



CHILDREN IN POVERTY, 1998

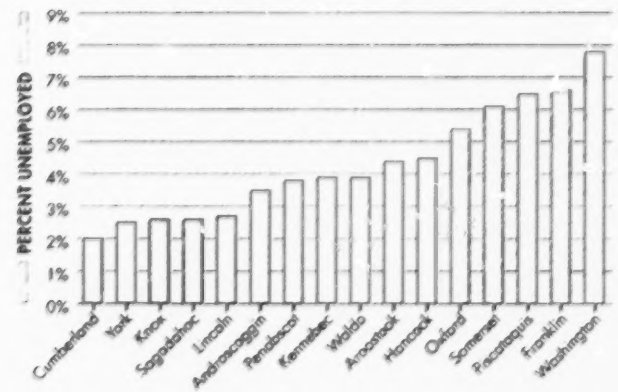
SOURCE: US Census Bureau's Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE)



SCHOOL CHILDREN RECEIVING SUBSIDIZED SCHOOL LUNCH, 2000-2001

SOURCE: Department of Education School Food Service Reimbursement System Report ED-534

*Children are eligible for subsidized lunch if their family's income does not exceed 185% of the federal poverty level (e.g. in 2000, 185% of poverty was an income at or below $31,542 for a family of four)



UNEMPLOYMENT, 2000

SOURCE: Maine Department of Labor Division of Labor Market Information Services in cooperation with the US Bureau of Labor Statistics

Maine State Profile

	MAINE		NATIONAL
	State Number	Rate or Percent	Rate or Percent
PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH			
Children without health insurance, 1998-2000 (as % of all children)	27,000	9%	14%
Low-income uninsured children, 1998-2000 (as % of all uninsured children)	17,000	63%	64%
Immunizations of children 19-35 months, 2000		84.1%	77.6%
Hospital discharges of children for attempted suicide, 2000; rate per 1,000 children aged 0-19	178	0.5	
TOTAL Hospital discharges of children for mental health or substance abuse diagnoses, 2000; rate per 1,000 children aged 0-19	2,016	6.0	
Mental Health Discharges	*1,815*		
Substance Abuse Discharges	*201*		
In 2001, High school students reporting:			
Alcohol use within past 30 days		48%	50%
Marijuana use within past 30 days		27%	27%
Cigarette smoking within past 30 days		25%	35%
At least one suicide attempt in the last year		9%	8%
Sexually active students who reported using a condom during last intercourse		52%	58%
Children aged 0-17 in Department of Human Services care or custody, December, 2001; rate per 1,000 children aged 0-17	2,955	9.8	
Substantiated child abuse and neglect victims; rate per 1,000 children aged 0-17, 2000	4,162	13.8	
TOTAL Reports alleging child abuse and neglect that were received by Child Protective Services, Calendar year 2000	15,234		
Number of reports screened out (did not warrant Child Protective Services)	6,044	40%	
Number of reports that warranted Child Protective Services	9,190	60%	
Cases assigned to Child Protective Services	*4,833*	*53%*	
Cases which were assigned to a contract agency	*4,116*	*45%*	
Cases not assigned to Child Protective Services due to lack of resources	*241*	*3%*	
TOTAL Case assessments completed by CPS in 2000 (includes those that may have been reported in the previous calendar year)	4,728		
Cases substantiated	*2,445*	*52%*	
Cases unsubstantiated	*2,283*	*48%*	
SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY			
Children in low-income families, 1998-2000	91,000	32%	38%
Children under age 5 in poverty, 1998	12,395	17.9%	20.8%
Jobs that pay a livable wage, 2000	398,597	67%	

*The indicator has changed from that used in last year's Data Book. Please see the Definitions and Sources section for an explanation of the exact change(s)

	MAINE		NATIONAL
	State Number	Rate or Percent	Rate or Percent
Median income of families with children, 1997-1999	$42,100		$45,600
Families headed by mothers receiving child support or alimony, 3-year average, 1997-1999		57%	34%
Child support enforcement, cases with collection, 2000	41,463	67%	41.6%
Children in single-parent families, three-year average 1997-1999		27%	27%
Children aged 0-17 living in homeless or emergency shelters, July, 2001; rate per 1,000 children 0-17	425	1.4	
Births to single teenaged mothers, 1999 (as % of total live births)	1128	8.3%	
Births to married teenaged mothers, 1999 (as % of total live births)	194	1.4%	
Repeat teen pregnancies, 1999 (as % of total teen pregnancies)	510	27%	
TOTAL Recipients of WIC benefits, 2001	39,468		
Women	*10,388*		
Infants and Children (as % of all children under age 5)	*29,080*	*40%*	
State TANF and Food Stamp maximum benefit level as a percent of the Federal Poverty Guideline, 2001	$841/month	69.0%	
EDUCATION AND LEARNING			
High school completion rate, Class of 2000	12,205	86.4%	
TOTAL High school graduates planning to attend post-secondary school, 1999-2000 school year	9,379	66.3%	62.9%
Public High school graduates	*7,931*	*64.8%*	
Selected Private High school graduates (with 60% or more publicly funded students)	*774*	*66.7%*	
Private High school graduates	*674*	*92.1%*	
TOTAL High school dropouts, 1999-2000 school year	2,106	3.19%	
Public High school dropouts	*1,999*	*3.19%*	*4.8%*
Selected Private High school dropouts (with 60% or more publicly funded students)	*107*	*2.00%*	
CHILD CARE:			
TOTAL Children served through child care subsidies, SFY 2001; as a percent of all eligible children	13,367	21.9%	
TANF child care	*3,761*		
Slots	*3,497*		
Vouchers	*6,109*		
TOTAL Number of licensed child care providers, December 2001	2,470		
Child Care Centers (as % of total providers)	*636*	*25.7%*	
Child Care Homes (as % of total providers)	*1,834*	*74.3%*	
Head Start Program, SFY 2001			
Number of state and federally funded children	3,616		
Estimated eligible children	12,395		
Estimated unmet need	8,779	70.8%	

County Profiles

NATIONAL Rate or Percent	MAINE State Number	MAINE Rate or Percent		ANDROSCOGGIN County Number	ANDROSCOGGIN Rate or Percent	AROOSTOOK County Number	AROOSTOOK Rate or Percent
			PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH				
	82,778	27.5%	Children participating in Medicaid, SFY 2001	7,478	30.0%	6,540	38.5%
	12,075	88.7%	Live births for which prenatal care began in the first trimester, 1999	1,123	21.2%	605	85.6%
7.6	822	6.0%	Low birth-weight infants, 1999	88	7.1%	35	5.0%
7.1	73	5.3	Infant mortality rate, 1995-1999	7	5.7	5	6.7
	47	2.0	Child deaths (ages 1-14), 1995-1999	4.5	1.8	2.4	1.7
7.1	51.4	5.8	Teen deaths (ages 15-19), 1995-1999	5.6	7.6	4.8	8.6
5.4	39.2	4.5	Teen violent deaths (ages 15-19), 1995-1999	4.4	6.0	4.0	7.1
0.53	11	0.61	Child and teen suicides (ages 10-19), 1995-1999	1.4	0.94	1.2	1.07
	4,486	353.3	Domestic assaults reported to police, 2000	543	524.6	268	359.5
	9,992	68.3	Arrests of children, 2000	1,610	137.0	802	92.9
	175	1.2	Arrests of children for crimes against persons, 2000	28	2.4	8	0.9
			SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY				
12.7%	41,750	14.2%	Children in Poverty, 1998	3,599	14.6%	3,170	18.0%
$38,885	$35,560		Median household income, 1998	$34,895		$29,458	
	18,337	6.1%	Children on TANF, October 2001	2,160	8.7%	1,264	7.4%
	36,987	12.3%	Children receiving food stamps, October 2001	4,118	16.5%	2,728	16.0%
	63,079	30.7%	School children receiving subsidized school lunch, 2000-2001	5,347	34.2%	5,524	44.8%
4.0%	24,200	3.5%	Unemployment rate, 2000	2,140	3.5%	1,680	4.4%
			EDUCATION AND LEARNING				
		86.4%	Public High school completion rate, Class of 2000*		82.7%		90.9%
4.8%	1,999	3.29%	Public High school dropouts, 1999-2000	171	3.33%	102	2.65%
62.9%	7,931	64.8%	Public high school graduates planning to attend post-secondary school, 1999-2000	542	57.8%	589	68.9%
130.1	35,633	158.7	Individuals with Disabilities age 3-21, 2000-2001	3,039	168.9	1,828	146.9

* The indicator has changed from that used in last year's Data Book. Please see the Definitions and Sources section for an explanation of the exact change(s)

CUMBERLAND		FRANKLIN		HANCOCK		KENNEBEC		KNOX		LINCOLN	
County Number	Rate or Percent	County Number	Rate or Percent	County Number	Rate or Percent	County Number	Rate or Percent	County Number	Rate or Percent	County Number	Rate or Percent
12,129	19.7%	2,476	35.4%	2,837	24.6%	8,091	28.9%	2,433	27.4%	1,896	24.9%
2,771	92.8%	274	91.6%	428	86.5%	1,011	88.1%	324	85.5%	246	85.1%
183	6.1%	19	6.4%	24	4.8%	72	6.3%	19	5.0%	19	6.6%
15	5.1	1	2.1	2	4.1	7	5.7	1	3.6	1	3.9
8.2	1.8	1.0	1.8	1.2	1.3	3.8	1.8	1.6	2.4	0.8	1.4
7.2	4.3	1.0	4.0	2.2	6.7	3.8	4.3	2.0	8.5	1.0	4.8
5.0	3.0	0.6	2.4	1.2	3.7	3.4	3.9	1.4	5.9	0.8	3.8
2.0	0.60	0.4	0.85	0.0	0.00	0.6	0.35	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.00
984	372.7	113	383.9	109	212.2	465	397.6	102	259.2	45	134.9
1,784	62.3	357	100.5	281	48.0	904	65.2	230	52.9	102	26.2
27	0.9	4	1.1	8	1.4	10	0.7	2	0.5	2	0.5
6,593	11.7%	1,107	15.7%	1,500	13.5%	3,910	14.3%	1,291	14.9%	1,033	14.2%
$42,514		$31,674		$34,944		$36,573		$34,909		$36,265	
3,271	5.3%	537	7.7%	365	3.2%	1,434	5.1%	472	5.3%	268	3.5%
5,683	9.2%	1,111	15.9%	792	6.9%	3,833	13.7%	912	10.3%	720	9.4%
9,067	21.7%	2,040	41.0%	2,146	27.9%	5,991	29.2%	1,332	28.6%	1,310	24.7%
2,860	2.0%	980	6.6%	1,330	4.5%	2,420	3.9%	530	2.6%	500	2.7%
	83.3%		88.4%		83.5%		87.9%		90.5%		81.9%
446	3.84%	50	3.05%	107	4.73%	142	2.64%	57	2.53%	19	2.69%
1,698	72.4%	265	73.8%	245	55.6%	778	69.8%	240	56.2%	91	61.1%
6,055	130.9	789	152.7	1,615	191.1	3,333	152.8	1,157	193.6	840	146.0

County Profiles, continued

NATIONAL Rate or Percent	MAINE State Number	MAINE Rate or Percent		OXFORD County Number	OXFORD Rate or Percent	PENOBSCOT County Number	PENOBSCOT Rate or Percent
			PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH				
	82,778	27.5%	Children participating in Medicaid, SFY 2001	4,588	34.6%	10,279	30.9%
	12,075	88.7%	Live births for which prenatal care began in the first trimester, 1999	469	87.2%	1,290	84.5%
7.6	822	6.0%	Low birth-weight infants, 1999	25	4.6%	105	6.9%
7.1	73	5.3	Infant mortality rate, 1995-1999	2	4.3	11	7.5
	47	2.0	Child deaths (ages 1-14), 1995-1999	2.6	2.5	6.6	2.6
7.1	51.4	5.8	Teen deaths (ages 15-19), 1995-1999	0.8	2.2	6.4	5.6
5.4	39.2	4.5	Teen violent deaths (ages 15-19), 1995-1999	0.4	1.1	5.6	4.9
0.53	1.1	0.61	Child and teen suicides (ages 10-19), 1995-1999	0.2	0.26	2.6	1.21
	4,486	353.3	Domestic assaults reported to police, 2000	195	357.3	432	298.4
	9,992	68.3	Arrests of children, 2000	266	39.4	1,008	62.1
	175	1.2	Arrests of children for crimes against persons, 2000	3	0.4	13	0.8
			SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY				
12.7%	41,750	14.2%	Children in Poverty, 1998	2,176	16.4%	5,243	16.1%
$38,885	$35,560		Median household income, 1998	$31,012		$34,966	
18,337	6.1%		Children on TANF, October 2001	1,122	8.4%	2,555	7.7%
36,987	12.3%		Children receiving food stamps, October 2001	2,416	18.2%	4,414	13.3%
	63,079	30.7%	School children receiving subsidized school lunch, 2000-2001	4,141	38.8%	7,606	32.2%
4.0%	24,200	3.5%	Unemployment rate, 2000	1,450	5.4%	2,980	3.8%
			EDUCATION AND LEARNING				
		86.4%	Public High school completion rate, Class of 2000*		85.9%		87.6%
4.8%	1,999	3.29%	Public High school dropouts, 1999-2000	98	3.24%	287	3.76%
62.9%	7,931	64.8%	Public high school graduates planning to attend post-secondary school, 1999-2000	329	57.9%	1,021	67.0%
130.1	35,633	158.7	Individuals with Disabilities age 3-21, 2000-2001	1,816	160.4	3,870	151.3

* The indicator has changed from that used in last year's Data Book. Please see the Definitions and Sources section for an explanation of the exact change(s)

PISCATAQUIS		SAGADAHOC		SOMERSET		WALDO		WASHINGTON		YORK	
County Number	Rate or Percent	County Number	Rate or Percent	County Number	Rate or Percent	County Number	Rate or Percent	County Number	Rate or Percent	County Number	Rate or Percent
1,484	36.2%	1,782	19.6%	4,781	37.8%	2,811	32.0%	3,833	48.7%	9,341	20.3%
121	85.8%	393	89.9%	475	85.1%	355	86.4%	285	79.8%	1,905	90.6%
8	5.7%	31	7.1%	26	4.7%	20	4.9%	30	8.4%	118	5.6%
2	10.9	1	3.0	3	4.4	2	5.1	1	3.8	11	5.3
0.8	2.4	0.8	1.1	3.4	3.4	1.4	2.0	2.4	3.7	6.6	2.0
0.6	4.5	0.8	3.5	3.6	9.4	3.0	11.5	2.6	10.0	6.0	5.2
0.2	1.5	0.6	2.6	2.8	7.3	2.2	8.4	2.0	7.7	4.6	4.0
0.0	0.00	0.2	0.41	0.4	0.50	0.6	1.10	0.4	0.75	0.8	0.32
43	247.9	143	407.4	208	409.5	62	172.3	102	299.2	672	364.1
144	65.7	208	47.9	331	52.2	113	26.4	179	46.0	1,673	76.8
3	1.4	1	0.2	11	1.7	0	0.0	7	1.8	48	2.2
743	17.0%	967	10.8%	2,280	16.8%	1,623	17.3%	1,821	21.5%	4,695	10.8%
$29,291		$41,656		$29,195		$30,984		$25,997		$40,886	
250	6.1%	338	3.7%	1,041	8.2%	555	6.3%	605	7.7%	3,078	6.7%
558	13.6%	707	7.8%	2,436	19.3%	1,253	14.3%	1,405	17.9%	3,903	8.5%
1,483	46.9%	1,497	27.7%	3,987	45.0%	2,227	39.9%	2,783	53.6%	6,598	21.7%
550	6.5%	430	2.6%	1,610	6.1%	920	3.9%	1,290	7.8%	2,480	2.5%
	83.6%		86.4%		86.7%		86.2%		84.6%		88.7%
24	3.17%	92	4.49%	81	3.13%	34	2.32%	47	3.26%	242	2.73%
82	55.4%	258	57.9%	308	55.7%	196	69.8%	177	59.8%	1,112	61.7%
311	94.9	1,368	201.5	1,813	199.2	1,102	192.3	1,011	181.7	5,686	170.5

Definitions and Sources of Data

Arrests of children
Rate per 1,000 children aged 10-17. Total number of arrests of children aged 10-17 for crimes including manslaughter, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny, motor vehicle theft, forgery and counterfeiting, fraud, stolen property, vandalism, possession of a weapon, prostitution, sex offenses, drug and alcohol related offenses, violation of liquor laws, driving under the influence, drunkenness, disorderly conduct, and curfew and loitering law violations. The annual arrest data counts all arrests of youth for offenses during calendar year 2000, including repeated offenses by the same individual.
SOURCE: Maine Department of Public Safety, Uniform Crime Reports, 2000.

Arrests of children for crimes against persons
Rate per 1,000 children aged 10-17. Total number of arrests of children aged 10-17 for crimes against persons including murder and non-negligent manslaughter, forcible rape, robbery and aggravated assault; does not include other assaults. The annual arrest data count all arrests of youth for crimes against persons during calendar year 2000, including repeated offenses by the same individual.
SOURCE: Maine Department of Public Safety, Uniform Crime Reports, 2000.

Births to married teenaged mothers
The percent of total live births to married women under age 20 in calendar year 1999. Births are reported by the mother's place of residence at the time of birth.
SOURCE: Maine Department of Human Services, Office of Data, Research, and Vital Statistics.

Births to single teenaged mothers
The percent of total live births to unmarried women under age 20 in calendar year 1999. Births are reported by the mother's place of residence at the time of birth.
SOURCE: Maine Department of Human Services, Office of Data, Research, and Vital Statistics.

Child and teen suicides
Five-year average (1995-1999), rate per 10,000 children aged 10-19. Deaths of children aged 10 through 19 for which suicide was listed as the cause. The data are reported by the child's place of residence, not the place of death.
SOURCE: Special tabulations by the Maine Department of Human Services, Office of Data, Research and Vital Statistics.

Child deaths (ages 1-14)
Five-year average (1995-1999); rate per 10,000 children aged 1-14. Deaths from all causes to children from ages 1 through 14. The data are reported by the child's place of residence, not the place of death.
SOURCE: Special tabulations by the Maine Department of Human Services, Office of Data, Research and Vital Statistics.

Child support enforcement, cases with collection
The number of families with children for which the state child support enforcement agency successfully collected child support payments due, as a percent of the total number of families on the agency's caseload during fiscal year 2000.
SOURCE: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Child Support Enforcement, Fiscal Year 2000 Preliminary Data Preview Report: http://www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/cse/pubs/2000/data/report

Children in Department of Human Services care or custody
Rate per 1,000 children aged 0-17. Children ordered into Department of Human Services custody as of December 2001 as a result of a child protection hearing where the child is found to be in jeopardy, a juvenile hearing where it would be contrary to the child's health and welfare to remain in the care of custody of his parents, or a divorce and/or custody hearing where neither parent has been found able to provide a home in the best interest of the child.
SOURCE: Maine Department of Human Services, Bureau of Child and Family Services.

Children in poverty
The estimated number and percent of children, aged 0-17, that are living in poverty. Data are reported by county. In 1998, the poverty threshold for a typical family of four persons was $16,660.
SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE) program.
http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/saipe.html

Children in homeless or emergency shelters
Rate per 1,000 children aged 0-17. Individual children aged birth through 17 staying in one of Maine's homeless or emergency shelters during July of 2001, with or without other family members. This number may include children whose primary residence is out of state. It is also important to note that not all of the state's homeless or emergency shelters admit children.
SOURCE: Maine State Housing Authority.

Children receiving TANF
The total number of children aged birth through 17 who were receiving Temporary Aid to Needy Families in October 2001.
SOURCE: Maine Department of Human Services, Bureau of Family Independence.

Children receiving Medicaid
The estimated number of individual children aged birth through 17 eligible for Medicaid reimbursement during state fiscal year 2001. The data are reported by the child's county of residence at the time the eligibility was determined.
SOURCE: Maine Department of Human Services, Bureau of Medical Services.

Children receiving Food Stamp benefits
Total number of children aged birth through 17 who were receiving Food Stamp benefits in October 2001.
SOURCE: Maine Department of Human Services, Bureau of Family Independence.

Children in low-income families
Three-year average, 1998-2000. The number of children aged 0-17 who live in families with incomes less than twice the federal poverty threshold (< 200% of poverty). The rate is calculated as a percent of all children 0-17. In 2000, the poverty threshold for a typical family of four was $17,603. Thus, "low-income" represents income of less than $35,206 for a family of four.
SOURCE: Special tabulations for KIDS COUNT by the Population Reference Bureau using data from U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey (March supplement), 1999 through 2001.

Children in single-parent families
Three-year average, 1997-1999. The estimated percent of related children aged birth through 17 who live in families headed by a male or female person without a spouse present in the home. Related children include the family head's children by birth, marriage or adoption, as well as other persons aged 0-17, such as nieces or nephews, who are related to the family head.
SOURCE: Population Reference Bureau analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, 1997 through 1999 as shown in the Annie E. Casey Foundation, Kids Count Data Book: State Profiles of Child Well-Being, 2001.

Children served through child care subsidies
The number of children served through TANF child care, slots, and vouchers, during State Fiscal Year 2001 (July 1, 2000 – June 30, 2001). Children up to age 12 are eligible for subsidized child care if their parents are working or in education training, and have incomes at or below 85% of the state median income.
SOURCE: Maine Department of Human Services, Division of Contracted Community Services.

Children under age 5 in poverty
The estimated number and percent of children under age 5 that are living in poverty. Data are reported by county. In 1998, the poverty threshold for a typical family of four persons was $16,660.
SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE) program.
http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/saipe.html

Children without health insurance
Three-year average, 1998-2000. The estimated percent of related children aged birth through 17 who are not covered by any kind of public or private health insurance, including Medicaid. Related children include a household head's children by birth, marriage or adoption, as well as any other person aged 0-17, such as nieces or nephews, who are related to the household head.
SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey (March supplement), 1999 through 2001.

Domestic assaults reported to police

Rate per 100,000 population. Assaults in calendar year 2000 reported to the police which were perpetrated by family or household members who are or were married or living together in a romantic relationship, natural parents of the same child (whether or not the couple ever lived together) or other adult family members related by blood or marriage. These are not unduplicated counts, and may include numerous assaults affecting the same individuals.

SOURCE: Maine Department of Public Safety, Uniform Crime Reports, 2000

Families headed by mothers receiving child support or alimony,

Three-year average, 1997-1999. The estimated percent of families headed by a woman with no spouse present and with one or more own children aged birth through 17 receiving either child support or alimony payments during the previous calendar year. Includes those receiving partial payment as well as those receiving full payment. There may be no child support award in place for many of these families. Own children include the family head's children by birth, marriage or adoption.

SOURCE: Population Reference Bureau analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey (March supplement), 1998 through 2000, as published in the Annie E. Casey Foundation, Kids Count Data Book, State Profiles of Child Well-being, 2001

Head Start Program

Total number of state and federally funded children in Head Start program throughout the state of Maine in State Fiscal Year 2001. Head Start provides comprehensive child development and supportive services to low income preschool children and their families. Eligible children were estimated as the number of children under aged 5 in poverty. Unmet need was calculated by subtracting the number of funded children from the estimate of eligible children.

SOURCE: Maine Department of Human Services, Division of Contracted Community Services.

*** High school completion rate**

Class of 2000. The high school completion rate is the percentage of students that graduated from their high school, rather than dropping out of school sometime during their high school years. A separate graduation rate is calculated for each graduating class, such as the "Class of 2000". Calculation of rate is as follows: Number of graduates in this High School Class/(Number of graduates + Number of all dropouts during the 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th grade years of this graduating class).

SOURCE: Maine Department of Education, Division of Management Information: http://www.state.me.us/education/enroll/grads/grad.htm

High school dropouts

1999-2000 school year. Any person who has withdrawn or been expelled from high school before graduation or completion of a program of studies and who has not enrolled in another educational institution or program. Each local educational unit submits a dropout report to the Department of Education as of the last day of school, counting all students who dropped out during the previous calendar year. This calculation is referred to as an "event" dropout rate. Data are for public schools only.

SOURCE: Maine Department of Education, Division of Management Information: http://www.state.me.us/education/enroll/dropouts/drop.htm. 2000 National rate from the National Center for Education Statistics, Dropout Rates in the United States: 2000. http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2002/2002114.pdf

High school graduates planning to attend post-secondary school

1999-2000 school year. High school graduates (including regular diploma, other diploma, or certificate of completion during the previous school year or subsequent summer school) who intend to or are enrolled full or part time in post-secondary education, according to a survey administered by the local educational unit and submitted in the fall following graduation. The 1999 national rate reports the percentage of high school completers aged 16-24 who were enrolled in any post-secondary education institution the October after completing high school. Because of the difference in age ranges represented by County and State versus National data, please exercise caution in making comparisons.

SOURCE: Maine Department of Education, Division of Management Information. Data are available on-line: http://www.state.me.us/education/enroll/grads/grad.htm. 1999 National rate from U.S. Department of Education, The Condition of Education 2001. Data available on-line: http://nces.ed.gov/programs/coe/2001/section3/tables/t26_1.html

High school students reporting:

- alcohol use within past 30 days, 2001
- marijuana use within past 30 days, 2001
- cigarette smoking within past 30 days, 2001
- at least one suicide attempt in the last year, 2001
- using a condom during last intercourse, 2001

SOURCE: Maine Department of Education, Bureau of Instruction, 2001 Maine Youth Risk Behavior Survey Report. 1999 National rate from the Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance - Center for Disease Control: http://www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/dash/yrbs/trend.htm

Hospital discharges of children aged 0-19 for attempted suicide

Rate per 1,000 children aged 0-19. In 2000, the number of hospital discharges of children aged 0-19 with a principal diagnosis of an injury and an E Code categorizing the cause of injury as suicide/self-inflicted (E950.0 – E959). This group of E Codes categorize the method of suicide/self inflicted injury.

SOURCE: Maine Health Data Organization, special data run.

Hospital discharges of children aged 0-19 for mental health or substance abuse diagnoses

Rate per 1,000 children aged 0-19 in 2000, the number of hospital discharges of children aged 0-19 with a principal diagnosis of mental disease/disorder (MDC 19), alcohol/drug use or alcohol/drug induced organic mental disorders (MDC 20). These data count hospitalizations, not individual children.

SOURCE: Maine Health Data Organization, special data run.

*** Immunizations of children 19-35 months**

Data are from the 2000 National Immunization Survey, conducted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. These data represent children 19-35 months who have received "4:3:1 Series Coverage", that is, 4 doses of DTP (Diphtheria-Tetanus-Pertussis) vaccine, 3 doses of Poliovirus vaccine, and 1 dose of MMR (Measles-Mumps-Rubella) vaccine.

SOURCE: Center for Disease Control and Preventions, Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, August 3, 2001, 50 637-641. National Immunization Survey, 2000: http://www.nisabi.org/public/papers/mmwr2000.htm

Individuals with disabilities age 3-21

Rate per 1,000 students enrolled in public and private schools. The number of students enrolled in schools and individual education programs in Maine who are aged 3 through 21 and have disabilities requiring the provision of special education services. The count is taken as of December 1 of the school year (2000-2001) and reflects special education enrollment on that one date. The child count is completed by school administrative units, approved state operated/state supported school and Child Development Services sites. National rate represents children 0-21 during the 1998-1999 school year.

SOURCE: Maine Department of Education, Office of Special Services. Data are available on-line: http://www.state.me.us/education/speced/EFS05/pubic_reports. National rate from the National Center for Education Statistics, Digest of Education Statistics 2000, Chapter 2: Elementary and Secondary Education, Table 53.

Infant mortality

Rate per 1,000 live births, five-year average, 1995-1999. Deaths of infants under 1 year of age in comparison to live births occurring during the same time period. The data are reported by place of residence, not place of death.

SOURCE: Maine Department of Human Services, Office of Data, Research and Vital Statistics, 1999 national rate from Center for Disease Control, the National Vital Statistics Report, Vol. 49, No. 8, Deaths: Final Data for 1999. Report is available on-line: http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr49/nvs49_08.pdf

Jobs that pay a livable wage

The percentage of all jobs in Maine that paid what the Maine Economic Growth Council considers to be an annual livable wage for a family of two (assuming a single wage-earner) for calendar year 2000. This measure considers a livable wage to be 185% of the federal poverty threshold for a family of two. The 2000 poverty threshold for a family of two was $11,239. Therefore, a livable wage amounted to an annual salary of $20,792 for a family of two. Reported here is the percent of jobs that paid at least $20,792 per year.

SOURCE: Maine Development Foundation, special data analysis.

Live births for which prenatal care began in the first trimester

As a percent of all live births, 1999. Number of live births for which the mother began receiving prenatal care during the first three months of pregnancy.

SOURCE: Maine Department of Human Services, Office of Data, Research, and Vital Statistics. 1998 national rate from the National Center for Health Statistics, Trends in the Well-Being of America's Children and Youth, 2000.

*The indicator has changed from that used in last year's Data Book.

Low birthweight infants
As a percent of all live births, 1999. Live births in which the newborn weighed less than 2500 grams (5.5 lbs.), as a percent of total live births.
SOURCE: Maine Department of Human Services, Office of Data, Research and Vital Statistics, 1999 national rate from Federal Interagency Forum on Child and Family Statistics, America's Children: Key National Indicators of Well-Being, 2001. http://childstats.gov

Low-income uninsured children
Three-year average, 1998-2000. The number of children aged 0-17 who live in families with incomes less than twice the federal poverty threshold (< 200% of poverty) who lack health insurance. The rate is calculated as a percent of all uninsured children. All of these children are eligible for the State Child Health Insurance Program.
SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey (March supplement), 1999 through 2001. Data available on-line: http://www.census.gov/hhes/hlthins/hlic00.html

Median household income
Estimated median household income by county in Maine in 1998. These estimates are modeled from combined census estimates, current population surveys (CPS), and other administrative and economic data. The median income is the dollar amount which divides the income distribution into two equal groups - half with income above the median and half with income below it.
SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE) program. Data are available on-line: http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/saipe.html

Median income of families with children
Three-year average, 1997-1999. The estimated median annual income for families with related children aged birth through 17 living in the household. Related children include the family head's children by birth, marriage, or adoption, as well as other persons aged 0-17, such as nieces and nephews, who are related to the family head and living in the household.
SOURCE: Population Reference Bureau analysis of the U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey (March supplement), 1998 through 2000, as published in the Annie E. Casey Foundation, Kids Count Data Book: State Profiles of Child Well-being, 2000

Number of licensed child care providers
As of December 2001. Number of child care centers and child care homes licensed in the state of Maine.
SOURCE: Maine Department of Human Services, Division of Contracted Community Services

Recipients of WIC benefits
Number of individuals receiving WIC benefits (Women's, Infants' and Children's Supplemental Nutrition Program), 2001. Recipients must be at or below 185% of poverty and be at medical or nutritional risk.
SOURCE: Maine Department of Human Services, WIC Program, special data run

Repeat teen pregnancies
The percent of females under age 20 who became pregnant during calendar year 1999 who had already been pregnant at least once before in their lives.
SOURCE: Special tabulations by Maine Department of Human Services, Office of Data, Research, and Vital Statistics.

Requests for child abuse and neglect services
Any written or verbal requests made during calendar year 2000 for Child Protective Services intervention in a family situation on behalf of a child in order to assess or resolve problems being presented. Cases are screened out when evidence of serious family problems or dysfunction was evident but the situation did not contain an allegation of abuse or neglect. Cases deemed appropriate for referral meet the standards contained in 22 MRSA, 4002 as defined under the definition for substantiated child abuse and neglect victims. Appropriate referrals not assigned due to lack of resources refers to the Department of Human Services' ability to respond to referrals of child abuse and neglect based on factors such as the number of caseworkers, the seriousness or complexity of cases receiving services and the availability of resources. Current staff resources are not sufficient for the Department to assign all of the referrals it receives for Child Protective Services. The allegations of these referrals warrant Child Protective Services intervention but are not assigned because the office has reached the upper limits of its capacity to investigate and assess.
SOURCE: Maine Department of Human Services, Bureau of Child and Family Services, Child Protective Services. See also: Substantiated child abuse and neglect victims.

School children receiving subsidized school lunches
As percent of total public school enrollment, 2000-2001 school year. The National School Lunch Program is a meal entitlement plan primarily funded through federal dollars. All elementary and junior high schools are required to participate in the program. In Maine, high schools have the option of participating. Children are eligible for free school lunches if their family income does not exceed 130% of the federal poverty level. They are eligible for reduced price school lunches if their family income falls between 130% and 185% of the federal poverty level.
SOURCE: Maine Department of Education, School Nutrition Program. Data are available on-line: http://thor.ddp.state.me.us/doe_sfs/rptsql/eddevad534.ed534_parameters

State TANF and Food Stamp maximum benefit level
The percent of the 2001 Federal Poverty Guideline for a one-parent family of three persons (one parent, two children) covered by current-year state TANF (Temporary Aid to Needy Families) and Food Stamp Benefits. For a family of three, the 2001 Federal Poverty Guideline was $14,630, or $1,219/month. In Maine, the TANF maximum monthly grant for a family of three is $485. Therefore, the TANF maximum is 40% of the federal poverty guideline. A family of three receiving $485 in TANF benefits would receive a maximum monthly Food Stamp benefit of $335. The combined benefit of $796 is 67% of the Federal Poverty Guideline for a family of three.
SOURCE: Maine Department of Human Services, Bureau of Family Independence. Poverty Guidelines provided in the Federal Register Vol. 66, No. 33, February 16, 2001, pp. 10695-10697. http://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty/01poverty.htm

Substantiated child abuse and neglect victims
Rate per 1,000 children aged 0-17. The number of individual victims of child abuse and neglect in calendar year 2000 for whom assessment led to a finding of a threat to a child's health or welfare by physical, mental or emotional injury or impairment, sexual abuse or exploitation, deprivation of essential needs or lack of protection from these by a person responsible for the child (22 M.R.S.A. 4002). These numbers are affected by the Department of Human Services' ability to respond to referrals of child abuse or neglect based on factors such as the number of caseworkers, the seriousness or complexity of the cases receiving services, and the availability of resources.
SOURCE: Maine Department of Human Services, Bureau of Child and Family Services, Child Protective Services.

Teen deaths (ages 15-19)
Five-year average (1995-1999); rate per 10,000 children aged 15-19. The number of deaths from all causes to children aged 15 through 19. The data are reported by the child's place of residence, not the place of death.
SOURCE: Special tabulations by the Maine Department of Human Services, Office of Data, Research and Vital Statistics, 1998 national data published in Federal Interagency Forum on Child and Family Statistics, America's Children: Key National Indicators of Well-Being, 2001. This report is available on-line: http://childstats.gov

Teen pregnancy
Rate per 1,000 females aged 10-17. All reported live births, induced abortions, and fetal deaths occurring to females aged 10 through 17 during calendar year 1999.
SOURCE: Maine Department of Human Services, Office of Data, Research and Vital Statistics.

Teen violent deaths (ages 15-19)
Five-year average (1995-1999); rate per 10,000 children aged 15-19. Deaths caused by homicide, suicide, and accidents to children aged 15 through 19. The data are reported by the child's place of residence, not the place where the death occurred.
SOURCE: Special tabulations, Maine Department of Human Services, Office of Data, Research, and Vital Statistics; 1998 national rate from Annie E. Casey Foundation, Kids Count Data Book: State Profiles of Child Well-being, 2001.

Unemployment rate
The sum of the number of unemployed people aged 16 and over each month of the year 2000, divided by 12. Percent is the average number of people in the civilian labor force divided by the average number of unemployed people.
SOURCE: Maine Department of Labor, Bureau of Employment Security, Division of Labor Market Information Services, Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program (LAUS); "Civilian Labor Force for Maine and Counties, 2000" http://www.state.me.us/labor/lmis/reports/edrglmecty00.html. National data referenced are from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program (LAUS), Table 1. Employment status of the civilian noninstitutional population 16 years of age and over by region, division, and state, 1999-2000 annual average. http://stats.bls.gov/news.release/srgune.t01.htm

The publication of the annual Maine KIDS COUNT Data Book would not be possible without the cooperation of the state and non-state agencies that track the data highlighted in this report. We would like to thank these agencies for generously sharing these important data with the Maine KIDS COUNT project each year.

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verizon

Fleet

FALL DAY

by Aryn Bernier Age 10

Fort Street School Mars Hill

Maine Children's Alliance

Maine KIDS COUNT is a project of the Maine Children's Alliance, a multi-issue, nonpartisan, nonprofit advocacy organization whose mission is to be a strong and powerful voice for Maine's children.

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